

Measurements of CO₂ Mixing Ratio In and Above the PBL Over the Forested Area in Siberia

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To understand the difference in CO₂ behavior between the planetary boundary layer (PBL) and the free troposphere, we conducted CO₂ measurements using a small aircraft and a tower in the forested area in Western Siberia.

Continuous CO₂ measurements were conducted at the radio communication tower (90-m height) located in the village of Berezorechka (56°N, 84°E) beginning in October 2001. CO₂ mixing ratios at 80 m, 40 m, 20 m and 5 m were measured every 30 minutes. Ambient air was automatically filled into cylinders up to 0.5 MPa and used as a reference gas to cancel the zero drift of the non-dispersive infrared analyzer (NDIR). Thus three standard gases are used only twice per day and can be maintained more than 3 years.

A CO₂ measurement device based on a single-cell NDIR equipped with a pressure-regulation system was developed and installed in a small aircraft (An-2). Two standard gases were introduced into the NDIR every 5 minutes. The aircraft ascended to 2 km above the Berezorechka tower and then descended to 0.15 km to get the vertical profiles of CO₂. The aircraft measurements have been conducted every 1-3 weeks since October 2001 (Figure 1).

We present our preliminary results obtained from 2002 to 2003 and discuss the differences in seasonal variations at each altitude level.

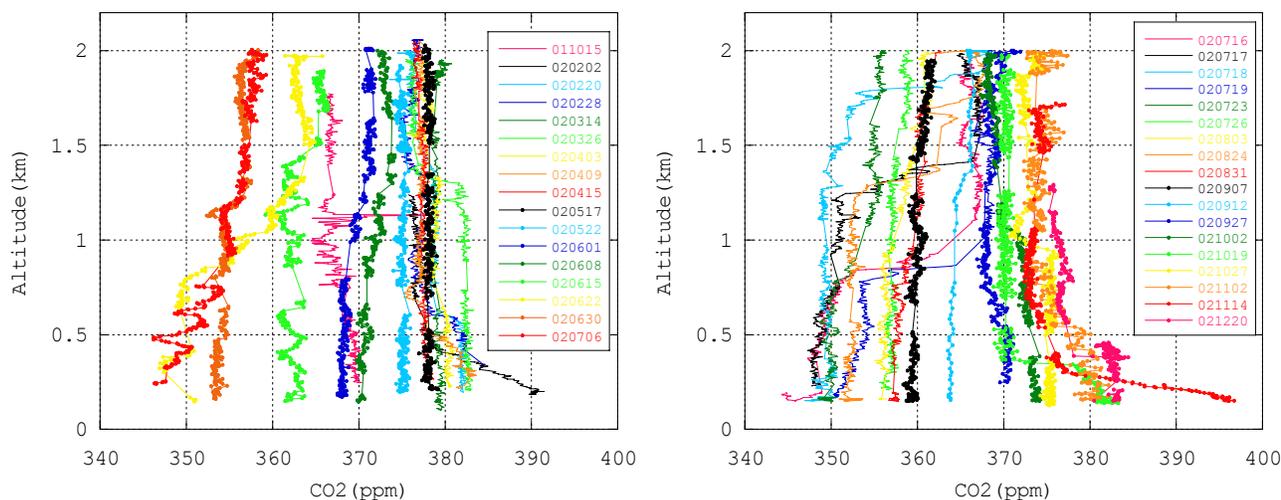


Figure 1. Vertical profiles of CO₂ mixing ratio observed over Berezorechka from October 2001 to December 2002.